



TWS Design Team Meeting

December 14, 2012



MEETING SUMMARY

TRIBAL WATER SUMMIT DESIGN TEAM MEETING

10:00 AM – 4:00 P.M.

CENTER FOR COLLABORATIVE POLICY

815 S STREET SACRAMENTO, CA

MEETING OBJECTIVES:

1. Advance format for theme topics.
2. Strategize on invitations to presenters.
3. Discuss Implementation Session
4. Commence initial work on developing resolutions for each theme.

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Welcome, Introductions

Stephanie Lucero opened the meeting with introductions then went over the agenda for today.

Water and Land Use Management

Julie Griffith-Flatter, co-lead, gave a status report of the team's work on planning the water and land use management session. Stephanie Seuss, co-lead and environmental staff for Tuolumne Band Miwok, will open the discussion about her tribe's water issues, then a panel will expand the discussion incorporating – infrastructure, flood, access, development upper watershed, restoration, current planning efforts, human right to water, etc. Team has yet to pinpoint the specific topics. The floor was open for suggestions and comments.



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It was suggested that another case study be included, to represent a Southern California Tribe. The 2009 Summit placed a lot of emphasis on northern California. Jackie Gonzales, from Cabazon, may be able to discuss the lack of water in southern California.

There was a recommendation to show a segment of the film about the Owens Valley Water Association, shown at the November 2012 RTOC meeting.

The conversation shifted as to finding a common thread between the case studies. Stephanie Lucero suggested giving a generic case study that would touch on a majority of the issues tribes from across the state face. Visuals can be shown to give specific geographic areas. One common theme is to show that current land and water use policies are not working and emphasize the importance of integration management. Some tribes integrate with agencies well, others not so much for various reasons. Panelists can explain what has worked, what has not worked, identify where improvement is needed, and provide recommendations. Given the condensed time schedule, the list of key points must be narrowed. Ideas were shared amongst the group.

Julie summarized that the group was saying the same thing of what they wanted: The session should use a situation/story/projects (the label case study was dropped) and define what that is and who is the presenter(s) in a manner of how we want this developed be video or poster, and how it can be applied across California. A whitepaper was proposed as a handout to show all the concerns discussed and those not touched by the panelists. There was an agreement that the panelists be tribal people.

There was a question as to what the deliverable will be from the session. One suggestion was that agencies and companies, whether private or public, who are requesting to increase their water right should be **mandated** to notify Tribes immediately.

Stephanie Lucero summarized that a deliverable or resolution could be how to engage Tribes in a way that works. This would feed into the proposed implementation plan. Agencies can look at what they are doing and how to incorporate Tribes. The objective for this session is a mandate by agencies to identify steps and solutions to notify Tribes. Implementation planning would focus on the solutions. The common theme is that watershed and land use planning affects tribal communities. Unless Tribal communities are brought in early, there will continue to have issues.

Julie laid out a potential set-up for the session: have a facilitator who can start the story that discusses the problems and differences, especially in philosophy, to set the stage. Then say, "For instance, here is the Owens Valley Story," and someone from Owens Valley present the problems and solution from the tribal perspective. Then the facilitator will thread in another story, such as, "Here is what is happening to the Karuk or San Bernardino." Presenter familiar with that piece will bring their tribal perspective then move on to a third story. The facilitator will discuss the overarching issues and what weaves the three stories together.



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Potential presenters:

- Stephanie Seuss, Moderator and/or find someone from Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk
- Alan Babcock of Big Pine
- Brian Atkins from Bishop
- ACTION ITEM: John Covington will find someone in the Coachella Valley to speak.
- Sonny Hendrix from Tuolumne Me-Wuk
- Leif Hillman from Karuk
- Jacquelyn Goodwin
- Craig Tucker is a spokesperson for Klamath but he is not tribal.
- ACTION ITEM: Tim Nelson will contact Buster and Jacquelyn.
- For the coastal area, there were suggestions of looking into the Pinnacles, coastal Chumash or Charles Atners of Fresno State.
- ACTION ITEM: Someone to ask Jane Vorpagel about potential speakers as well as Jackie Gonzales from Cabazon and Mike Connelly from Kumeyaay for suggestions on speakers.

Tribal Ecological Knowledge

Kimberly Johnston-Dodds and Ron Goode, co-leads, discussed the idea of a video montage of the whole state with narration. The session will have no power points, but involve storytelling. Potential speakers: Frank Lake, professor at Chico State; Chuck Strickland who is studying the Ohlone pre-contact. Someone from Karuk or Yurok to discuss watershed management and their climate change action plan. Photos looking at different ecosystems can be incorporated as part of the session. Kim and Ron will be meeting with above mentioned staff on January 10 in Chico.

Suggestions for more information-

- Mike Connelly on restoration projects
- Rob Roy from La Jolla
- Lisa Haws of Sycuan
- Christy of San Pascal
- Sage of Hopland on native plants
- Merv George of US Forest Service
- ACTION ITEM: Tim Nelson to inquire with Hoopa

Kimberly Johnston-Dodds and Marlon Sherman are working to developing a bibliography for the session, which dovetails with the Culture and Water RMS. She is working with the State Library to put California Native news online. Ron is working on a white paper and have a draft for review at the Jan. 24 TAC meeting. One of the objectives is to promote greater respect for TEK.



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Suggestions for the session:

- Address green energy and geo thermal projects here or water/land use session.
- ACTION ITEM: John Covington to find a project in Coachella Valley
- ACTION ITEM: Leslie Cleveland to inquire with a tribe in Death Valley
- Have a segment on fire management
- ACTION ITEM: Invite Army Corp liaisons and DC liaisons to the Summit

Indigenous Rights to Water

A broad education component to look at this topic from an international, national, then State view. John Echo Hawk will be invited to participate as a plenary speaker. The panel will give different indigenous perspectives, not necessarily the State Water Board's perspective, on water rights in California. It was recommended that we look at someone who works with the public trust doctrine like Jan Stevens. It was suggested that the legal component could be addressed by Rovianna Leigh. There were discussions about looking to additional lawyers as potential speakers including: Doug Garcia, Stuart Somach, Steve Quesenberry, and Curtis Berkey.

If there is a lawyer on the panel, it will be made clear the ground rules and questions that can and cannot be asked by the audience. We need to ensure that there is not an expectation to get legal advice on securing water rights. Some recommendations would be to address questions outside the session a booth or drop box could be set-up. Another suggestion is a board for tribes to write their questions to. A suggested deliverable is to have more water rights training, especially one geared to CA Indians.

Suggestions for the session:

- Another deliverable is to have beneficial uses be adopted for everything – cultural and subsistence uses for the water.
- Answer the question: What are the state and feds doing for Indians? Who can address allocation?
- Panel nominations: Doug Garcia, Steve Quesenberry, the Water Boards, Mervin George, Sr., Donna Vasquez of Bishop Paiute, or Grace Dick for cultural.
- Possible discussion topics were the definition of navigable waters.
- How to get the State to recognize the water belongs to the Tribes.

Invitation to Governor

Stephanie emailed the team and distributed hard copies of the draft letter for tribes to sign and give to the Governor inviting him to the Summit. The deadline is to have a revised letter for TAC approval at the Jan 24 meeting. Kamyar could sign on behalf of DWR, however, the recommendation is to put the tribe's names and signatures (if possible) on the letter.



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Resolution

At the last design team meeting it was suggested to look at National Congress of American Indians resolution as a template.

ACTION ITEM: Tim Nelson will develop a draft resolution with assistance from Atta Stevenson and Shanti Warwick and send it back to the group. Send ideas or suggestions to Tim.

ACTION ITEM: Stephanie will email Tim the NCAI link.

Water Stories

It was discussed if there was an interest to do videos.

ACTION ITEM: Kim will see if DWR's videographer can assist putting a movie together. She will invite the videographer, photographer, and public affairs deputy to a future meeting and let them know what the team is envisioning and coordinate a schedule.

The preferred option is for a video of the Summit and booklet of the white papers, session and stories. Additional funding will be sought to cover those costs.

TWS Agenda

Stephanie Lucero will be editing the agenda for review on or before the next Tribal AC/TWS meeting.

Other Items

ACTION ITEM: Stephanie will talk to David Ortiz, to see if he wants to coordinate the exhibits.

Exhibits will be connected to the water summit themes. Vendors will be operating under the marketplace atmosphere. Develop a sign-in for exhibits to keep track of sign-ups. The question of whether to require fees was raised and left for discussion at a later date. An application process needs to be developed. Merchants and practitioners will be given priority for space, then companies run and/or owned by tribes that assist tribes.

The scholarship application form will be developed by January 9th. Applications will be reviewed to determine scholarship eligibility. The scholarship will pay for room and some travel expenses depending on level of need. Travel rates will be based on the state rate.

ACTION ITEM: Stephanie to check with Judie if TAC members will be reimbursed. Is DWR setting aside paid rooms for those needing financial assistance? Can guests book rooms online?



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Next Steps

- ACTION ITEM TO TEAM: Send your invitation with edits and we will follow up next month. Also get approval from tribe to include their name on the letter.
- Indigenous Rights to Water team to meet and refine session.
- Teleconference on January 9 from 10 am – 12 pm focusing on the water rights session.
- Tim Nelson will draft a resolution with Shanti and Atta and have it for review at the Jan 24 TAC meeting. He will also look for a panel member for the north area.
- Implementation: Schedule for the end of Feb or March, a joint meeting with SASC or appropriate state agency representatives and tribal liaisons.
- Stephanie to contact David Ortiz about taking the lead on exhibits.
- Facilitation team to develop briefing papers and send out for review.
- Jan 24 Design Team meeting first half, then TAC after lunch

Attendance

Paula Britton, Habatemotel of Upper Lake

John Covington, Morongo Band of Mission Indians

Ron Goode, North Fork Mono Tribe

Tom Keegan, Dry Creek Rancheria

Leslie Cleveland, Bureau of Reclamation

Julie Griffith-Flatter, Sierra Nevada Conservancy

Chris Keithley, CalFire

Kelly Larvie, CalFire

Emily Alejandrino, DWR Tribal Coordinator Work Team Lead

Kimberly Johnston-Dodds, DWR Executive Office, Tribal Liaison

Abimael Leon, DWR, South-Central Regional Office, Tribal Liaison

Tim Nelson, DWR, North-Central Regional Office, Tribal Liaison

Stephanie Lucero, Tribal Facilitator

Telephone participants:

Bob Goodwin, US Forest Service, region 5